

Serial No. 09/992,920
Examiner: L. Edwards
Art Unit: 1734
June 30, 2003
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REMARKS

In the Office action, claim 17 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite; claims 1, 3, 6, 7, 13-17 and 34 were rejected as anticipated by Naeser; claims 21-25 and 27-29 were rejected as anticipated by Kurcz; claims 34 and 35 were rejected as anticipated by Keys; claims 27, 29 and 34 were rejected as anticipated by Johnson; claims 27, 29, 30 and 34 were rejected as anticipated by Krueger; claims 32-33 were allowed and claims 2, 4, 5, 8-12, 18-20, 26 and 31 were indicated as being allowable in independent form.

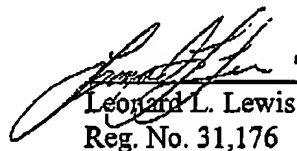
Claim 17 has been amended as suggested by the Examiner and it is respectfully submitted that the amended claim complies with 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph.

As to the rejections on the merits, allowed claim 2 has been placed in independent form by incorporation into claim 1. Claims 21 and 27 have been amended to recite that the rub block can pivot/articulate relative to the nozzle. There appears to be no such teaching in Kurcz, Johnson or Krueger. New claim 36 is submitted to place allowed claim 8 independent form, and claims 34-35 are canceled thereby obviating those rejections. As to the various dependent claims, Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections but defer additional comment pending further examination of the independent claims.

It is respectfully submitted that the application is in proper condition for allowance and that the pending claims are patentable over the art of record.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: June 30, 2003


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